

Saturday, 30th of Jan
Back at Sea -

Dearest Mother,

I read in the church bulletin that you were suffering from arthritis again. - Would you ask Johnnie if he would please write and let me know about you, the car, and anything else of general interest? I haven't heard from that area since I left. - Oh - I did get a letter from Lena in which she said "I do hope we become old maids gracefully, don't you" - That girl.

We've had a nice "rest" in Japan - Yokosuka, Yokohama, Kamakura and Tokyo - got to Yokosuka last Saturday went ashore and got stranded for 2 1/2 days because of a heavy snow storm. - Having been stranded once before out here, I decided I wouldn't take any chances even though the weather did look pretty good when we left - clear but very cold. Every body kidded me because I was taking my little satchel along but I just

grinned and said OK - "I've been stranded before" - she left at 4PM, it took 30 minutes to get in to there and in that length of time, it had turned much colder and it was snowing furiously! - So. I was wearing my black suit - the one with the "scoop-necked dress" - I had rhinestone jewelry with me, wore some gold jewelry (had the coat buttoned all the way!) took plain + fancy shoes, some small 1/2oz bottles with make-up base, cleansing cream + a small piece of stick cologne, + deodorant, "toe" brush, - wore black gloves + carried these darling white knit gloves along too. - I had borrowed a full length loose fitting coat - so I was all set. - She stayed in the hospital or with some of the nurses who have apartments so that we can check out pajamas, robes, towels and wash rags. But I could manage to look nice day time and evening. - Got a big kick out of being able to do that for 2 1/2 days! - The others moaned "He'll never laugh about Susie's satchel again!"

So now, we are on our way to Kobe. We'll be there until Thursday or Friday, then on to Incheon. They may change their minds and send us to Sasebo instead. At any rate, our present schedule is to Incheon until the 9 or 10th of March, then back to Yokosuka, then to Hong Kong the 25th of March! So get busy, Mother, and find out how much cashmere & lining material you want. - I really think it would be worthwhile for you to send all measurements - and let me have the coat made for you. - I can get it for \$50 - maybe less. - Also send a picture of the style you would prefer. I am going to have one made too. Why don't you ask Johnnie if he wouldn't like a sport coat? They run around \$15 - \$30. I wish I could get one for Raymond. - Oh - do you want a light or dark material?

I hope I don't get orders before we go to Hong Kong! That would be a low blow.

Well, dear heart, I'll close for
now with my loving thoughts
always going your way - and a
doubt in my mind re your
health. I do hope you are feeling
better.

Give my love to Raymond, Johnnie
and their families.

Lots of love,
Your daughter -